

City, his maternal grandparents William and Mary Peppers of Our Town and a paternal grandmother, Beulah Sims of Alexander City.

John Sims, Jr. was eager to serve his country as a Marine, Mr. Speaker. After graduating from Benjamin Russell High School in 2001, he joined the Marines and was known for his great sense of humor, his quick wit, and his big heart. Like every other soldier, he dutifully left behind his family and loved ones to serve our country overseas.

Words cannot express the sense of sadness we have for his family, and for the gratitude our country feels for his service. Lance Corporal Sims died serving not just the United States, but the entire cause of liberty, on a noble mission to help spread the cause of freedom in Iraq and liberate an oppressed people from tyrannical rule.

We will forever hold him closely in our hearts, and remember his sacrifice and that of his family as a remembrance of his bravery and willingness to serve.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the House's remembrance on this mournful day.

A PROCLAMATION IN MEMORY OF RUTH L. APPLGARTH

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, I hereby offer my heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Ruth L. Applegarth; and

Whereas, Ruth Applegarth was a loving sister, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother to the members of her family. Ruth was a faithful member of the New Athens United Methodist Church and spent her time working with Flushing Chapter 369, Order of the Eastern Star. As a licensed Practical Nurse at the Hillview Nursing Home in Flushing, the Cadiz Convalescent Center, the Belmont Habilitation Center and the Cadiz Group Home, Ruth brought comfort and solace to those patients she cared for; and

Whereas, Mrs. Applegarth will certainly be remembered by all those who knew her because of her loving nature towards her family, friends and community; and

Whereas, the understanding and caring to which she gave to others will stand as a monument to a truly fine person. Her life and love gave joy to all who knew her;

Therefore, while I understand how words cannot express our grief at this most trying of times, I offer this token of profound sympathy to the family and friends of Ruth L. Applegarth.

SHELLEY CENTENNIAL

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the city of Shelley, Idaho, a community in the heart of my state's rich potato country that this year is celebrating the centennial of its founding.

John F. Shelley settled eastern Idaho in 1892, just two years after statehood. He built the first home, and later a store, in the town that would bear his name. The railroad saw promise in the area's rich volcanic soil and stalwart pioneers, and put in a spur line to connect them with the world. Shelley officially became a city in 1904.

In 1927, community leaders in Shelley organized the first annual Idaho Spud Day, a tradition that grew through the years and continues each September with the support of area growers and processors. Indeed, Shelley has become so thoroughly identified with Idaho's world famous potatoes that its high school teams are known as the "Russets."

That heritage has a special place in my heart, Mr. Speaker. My career in private business was focused on the potato industry. Over 30 years, selling Idaho potato products around the world, I came to know and appreciate my state's farmers and the towns and businesses and families their labors support—like Shelley.

It is a community with a rich and proud history, built on hard work and faith and values that endure. It is a place where people know one another, and look after one another. The people of Shelley are tough and resilient, and they are committed to keeping their hometown the kind of place much of America would still like to be.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Shelley and its fine citizens for a remarkable century of tradition, achievement and progress. I'm confident that Shelley, Idaho, will remain a special place to live, work and raise a family for generations to come.

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION TURNS 100

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, as a second generation doctor, who practiced medicine for 21 years, I am proud to congratulate the American Lung Association on this their centennial anniversary. The American Lung Association operates as the oldest voluntary health organization in the United States. The organization was founded in 1904 with the purpose of trying to combat tuberculosis. Today the Association fights all lung diseases with special emphasis on tobacco-related diseases and asthma.

One of the main focuses of the American Lung Association is the reduction of tobacco use in order to combat lung disease. The act of smoking itself makes it difficult for a person's lung to function properly which makes the lung itself vulnerable to carcinogens from the smoke inhalation. Cigarettes and tobacco contain many cancer-causing chemicals. Along with disabling the immune response and destroying the lung tissue, chemicals can wreak cancerous havoc within the lung, esophagus, throat, and mouth. Chemicals found in tobacco smoke also destroy the cellular mechanisms which remove particles from the bronchial passages and results in "smoker's cough". Helping America to stop smoking is a difficult, but worthy pursuit.

The second mission the association has been focusing on for one hundred years is

that of asthma. Asthma is a lung disease that can be life-threatening and is chronic. In other words, you live with it every day. Asthma can develop quickly and it can range from being a mild discomfort to a life-threatening attack if breathing stops completely. This is a deadly, often overlooked threat that the American Lung Association is fighting.

Today, lung cancer is the leading cause of death from cancer in men and women. Therefore, it is vital that both public and professional efforts be directed at effectively controlling this epidemic. The American Lung Association is doing its part in helping us to fight this deadly disease. They now operate by means of contributions and grants from corporations, foundations, and government agencies. Major medical and educational institutions help the association to provide information and programs to schools, communities, and different health agencies completely free or at a nominal fee.

Thank you for serving our nation for one hundred years in combating lung disease.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JAMEER NELSON

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Saint Joseph's University senior Mr. Jameer Nelson, who will go down in history as one of the greatest basketball players to have ever graced the court of St. Joseph's University. This 5'11" point guard recently completed a sweep of the National Player of the Year awards, winning honors such as the John R. Wooden Award, the award for Associated Press Player of the Year, and the Pomeroy Naismith Award.

This unanimous AP All-American selection led the Hawks to an incredible 30–2 season, topping the team in points, assists and steals, while simultaneously becoming Saint Joseph's career leader. His four-year class secured the most wins in school history with a 98–27 record and rallied the support of people in the greater Philadelphia area with four consecutive post-season appearances. This year, he and the Hawks attained their first-ever number-one seed in the NCAA tournament and advanced to the Elite Eight. In recognition of Mr. Nelson and his monumental career at Saint Joseph's, his number 14 will be retired.

As a Chester, PA native, Mr. Nelson has had an outstanding collegiate career and is now preparing for a professional basketball career. His talents and many awards provide him tremendous opportunity in the NBA and in life.

It is a privilege to recognize a young person whose ability, leadership, and commitment have brought success to his school and team. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Jameer Nelson for achievement in his basketball career.